To Tune Into Other PBSkids Shows About Country Music; Don’t Miss:

Elmo and Sugarland
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGvKPWSXBeA

Sounda-Pa-Looza
PBSKIDS.org/catinthehat/games/sounda-pa-looza

Ken Burns’ Country Music
New Eight-part Series
September 15-25, 2019
Barn Dance
« Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault/
Illustrated by Ted Rand
Ages 4-8
A classic Reading Rainbow book from the late
1980s, the authors cleverly write in rhyme
using verse that mimics a rhythm. On a full
moon night, all the farmyard animals gather at
the barn for a barn dance with a foot stompin’
party and a scarecrow playing the fiddle.
A young boy from the farmhouse hears the music
from his bedroom window and goes to the
barn to join in the fun. They danced all night
doing the “do-si-do,” until the hooting owl
announces that “Morn’ Comin’ Closer.” The
boy returns to his bedroom and falls into bed.

The Long Gone Lonesome History of
Country Music « Bret Bertholf
Ages 9-12
Written and illustrated by country-western
singer Bret Berthol, this book offers a humorous,
folksy narrative of how and why country music
started in the rural barns and back country
of America. Berthol highlights country music
instruments, the importance of the radio in the
music’s development, early recordings, how
today, the impact of the Great Depression,
and the influence of other types of music
including gospel. With cleverness and wit, this
book provides a lot of historical information
in the midst of fun pictures of paper doll
cowboys and caricatures of country stars. It is
certainly a fun read, and not to be missed!

Honky-Tonk Heroes and Hillbilly
Angels: The Pioneers of Country and
Western Music « Holly George-Warren/
Illustrated by Laura Levine
Ages 7-11
This 32-page book provides a wonderful
introduction to Country and Western Music; it
highlights the origin of the music, its musicians,
and its culture. Overall, this book focuses on
the lives of charismatic country music pioneers
including: The Carter Family, Jimmie Rodgers,
Roy Acuff, Gene Autry, Ernest Tubb, Bill
Monroe, Bob Wills, Kitty Wells, Hank Williams,
Patsy Cline, Buck Owens, Loretta Lynn, Tammy
Wynette, George Jones, and Johnny Cash.
This fun book inspires one to listen to music
by some of the greatest country music.

Coat of Many Colors
« Dolly Parton/Illustrated by Brooke
Boynton-Hughes
Ages 4-8
Country-singer legend Dolly Parton shares
with young readers in this picture book
about her modest upbringing in the Smoky
Mountains of Tennessee utilizing the lyrics
of her classic song “Coat of Many Colors.” In
this poetic story, a young girl needs a warm
coat because the winter is coming, and her
mother sews her a coat from colorful old
rags. Despite the fact that she is made fun
of by her classmates for being poor, Dolly’s
positive attitude shines through as the girl
realizes that every stitch of her coat was
made with love.

Lorraine: The Girl who Sang the Storm
Away « Keith Secor/ Illustrated by Higgins
Bond
Ages 5-10
Author Ketch Secor, who is the founder of
the Old Crow Medicine Show and a
Grammy award-winning musician, writes a
heart-warming epic American story about
Tennessean girl named Lorraine and her
Grandpa Pa- Paw. With gorgeous illustrations,
this book showcases the power of music and
family as Lorraine plays her pennywhistle
alongside her Pa Paw, who plays his harmonica.
As their instruments mysteriously disappear
and a treacherous weather comes, Lorraine
finds her voice as she sings and dances
through the scary storm. Clearly, music
helped them through hard times and high-
lights the importance of country music.

Passing the Music Down
« Sarah Sullivan/Illustrated by Barry Root
Ages 6-10
Told in a poetic narrative, this book tells
a story of a young boy who travels to the
Appalachian Mountains to hear a legendary
fiddler, who an old-time miner. Throughout
the book, the fiddler passes down the
tradition of country music to the boy; Sullivan
celebrates musical apprenticeship, mentorship,
and intergenerational friendship. This book
was inspired by the true story of Melvin Wine
and Jake Krack.

Cool Country Music: Create &
Appreciate What Makes Music Great!
(Cool Music) « Mary Lindeen
Ages 6-10
This book provides a straightforward introduction
to Country Music by exploring its origins
timeline), its many styles--Western Swing,
Bluegrass, Honky-tonk, Rockabilly and Country
Rock, Tex-Mex, and Alternative Rock--and
Country instruments. The author provides a
list of important Country Music stars, groups,
and songs. It discusses various ways fans
experience country music. Adding a creative
twist to this book, the author provides step-
by-step instructions on how to make your own
banjo and write a Country song.

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